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## A Fine Pair Of Patinated Bronze Statuettes Depicting Mars And Minerva, Italy, 18th Century



1 800 EUR

Period : 18th century

Condition : Très bon état

Material : Bronze

Height : 20

### Description

A Fine Pair of Patinated Bronze Statuettes  
Depicting Mars and Minerva, Italy, 18th Century

An elegant pair of patinated bronze statuettes, finely depicting Mars, god of war, and Minerva, goddess of wisdom and the arts. These two mythological figures--symbols of strength and reflection--rest on circular bases of Siena yellow marble, lending an air of refinement to their presence.

Mars, recognizable by his warrior attributes, embodies power and protection, while Minerva, often depicted with helmet and aegis, evokes strategic intelligence and culture. Their meticulous craftsmanship and ancient patina attest to the skill of 18th-century Italian artisans.

### Dealer

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Marché Biron, Allée 1, Galeries 82-83-84, 85 rue des Rosiers  
Saint-Ouen 93400

#### Dimensions:

Height: 7 7/8 inches

#### Condition:

In good used condition, these statuettes retain their period patina, with slight wear that enhances their authenticity and charm. The marble shows minor signs of use, lending the ensemble a subtle elegance and historical presence.

#### The Myth:

##### Mars and Minerva: Two Faces of Roman Power

In Roman mythology, Mars and Minerva embody complementary aspects of strength and strategy, reflecting the core values of ancient society.

Mars, god of war, symbolizes brute force, conquest, and territorial defense. Unlike his Greek counterpart Ares, often associated with blind violence, Mars was revered as a protector, a guarantor of order and agricultural prosperity. His cult, central to ancient Rome, honored both the warrior and the farmer, underscoring his role in the mythical founding of the city by Romulus and Remus.

Minerva, goddess of wisdom, the arts, and military strategy, was adopted from Greek mythology (where she corresponds to Athena). She represents intelligence, cunning, and technical mastery, and was often invoked to guide generals and artisans, embodying the balance between strength and thought. Their relationship illustrates an essential duality: Mars acts, Minerva plans. Together, they form an inseparable pair, celebrated in temples and legends. Their association reminds us that victory depends not only on might, but also on prudence and innovation.

This richly symbolic myth inspired centuries of art and literature, where Mars and Minerva frequently appear side by side--in imperial frescoes and sculptures--reflecting Rome's

greatness as rooted in both its armies and its capacity for organization and innovation.